



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pennsylvania Tart Cherry Production

HARRISBURG, PA, Jul 28, 2010 - - Pennsylvania's 2010 tart cherry production is forecast at 2.30 million pounds, 41 percent below last year's production of 3.90 million pounds and down 41 percent from 2008, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

U.S. tart production for 2010 is forecast at 195 million pounds, 46 percent below 2009 production and down 9 percent from 2008.

Michigan, the largest producing state, expects a crop of 140 million pounds, down 47 percent from the 2009 crop and 15 percent below 2008. The crop potential was reduced markedly by frosts during the bloom. Yields vary substantially among varieties. Bacterial canker was reported by growers as a problem in some orchards.

Washington expects to produce 16.0 million pounds of tart cherries in 2010, down 4 percent from 2009 and 28 percent higher than 2008. Columbia Basin spring weather was predominately cool, wet, and windy this year. Frost was a problem during bloom and conditions were less than optimal for pollination.

Utah production is forecast at 24.0 million pounds, down 49 percent from 2009 but up 20 percent from 2008. A late frost, cold wet spring, and tree fatigue from last year's extra heavy crop resulted in production at about half of last year's record level.

New York is expected to produce 6.70 million pounds of tart cherries, 40 percent lower than the 2009 crop and 30 percent below 2008. Frost damage and poor weather after bloom was reported in the Lake Ontario fruit region. Producers in the Lake Erie area and Hudson Valley reported some frost and poor weather.

Oregon's production is forecast at 2.00 million pounds, down 38 percent from 2009 and 29 percent below the production in 2008. Production was affected by an extremely cold night in early April which led to a poor set for this year's crop.

Wisconsin production is forecast at 4.30 million pounds, down significantly from last year due to multiple frosts during blossoming and cold rainy weather during pollination.

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